



FACT VS. FICTION: COVID-19

Common misconceptions about COVID-19 debunked (Updated 04/07/20)

FACT: COVID-19 CAN BE TRANSMITTED BY CLOSE PERSON-TO-PERSON CONTACT

The virus spreads through respiratory droplets from an infected person's cough or sneeze. These droplets can land on surfaces within about 6 feet and can spread to other people after close contact with these infected surfaces with their hands and then touch their face.

FICTION: ONLY PEOPLE ABOVE 60 ARE HIGH-RISK OF CATCHING COVID-19

It is true that older people and those who are immunosuppressed are at greatest risk for complications. However, data from the CDC showed that in the United States, of almost 2,500+ people with COVID-19 whose ages were known, 29 percent were 20 to 44 years old.

FACT: A PERSON CAN HAVE COVID-19 AND BE PRE-SYMPTOMATIC

There are many cases where people are “pre-symptomatic,” where they have no symptoms at the time when they test positive but go on to develop symptoms later. Most of the people who were thought to be asymptomatic aren’t truly asymptomatic.

FICTION: A VACCINE TO CURE COVID-19 IS AVAILABLE

There is no vaccine for the new coronavirus right now. Scientists have already begun working on one but developing a vaccine that is safe and effective in humans will take many months.

FACT: PHYSICAL DISTANCING WILL HELP RELIEVE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 AND FLATTEN THE CURVE

It takes time for infected people to become sick enough to require hospitalization. The effects of social distancing will likely be more apparent as orders stay in effect. We need to prepare to pull together, help one another and preserve social cohesion while we use social distancing to combat the virus.